UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

CHRISTIAN PINCKNEY (On his own behalf and on behalf of his Minor Children D.P. and I.P.) and SHARON WASHINGTON,

FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiffs,

16 CV 6151 (AKH)

-v-

THE CITY OF NEW YORK, New York City Police Department ("NYPD") Officer KAPPA FARID (Shield No. 24995) in his individual capacity,

Defendants.

CHRISTIAN PINCKNEY (On his own behalf and on behalf of his Minor Children D.P. and I.P.) and SHARON WASHINGTON, by their attorney REBECCA HEINEGG, as and for their complaint, do hereby state and allege:

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 1. This is a civil rights action brought to vindicate plaintiffs' rights under the First, Fourth, and Fourteenth Amendments of the Constitution of the United States, through the Civil Rights Act of 1871, as amended, codified as 42 U.S.C. § 1983; and pendant claims under the Constitution of the State of New York, Article I, §§ 6, 11, and 12, and the laws of the State of New York.
- 2. Plaintiffs' rights were violated when they were pulled over in their vehicle without cause by officers of the New York City Police Department ("NYPD"), who unconstitutionally and without any legal basis seized, detained, and subjected them to excessive force, including the unreasonable use of pepper spray, which injured Plaintiffs and their minor children.
- 3. By reason of defendants' actions, Plaintiffs were deprived of their constitutional rights.
- 4. Plaintiffs seek an award of compensatory and punitive damages and attorneys' fees.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 5. This action is brought pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 1983 and 1988 for violations of the First, Fourth, and Fourteenth Amendments of the Constitution of the United States.
- 6. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over federal claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1343(a)(3-4).
- 7. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over plaintiffs' claims against defendants under the Constitution and laws of the State of New York because they are so related to the within federal claims that they form part of the same case or controversy pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).
- 8. Pursuant to New York State General Municipal Law § 50-E, plaintiffs filed timely Notices of Claim with the New York City Comptroller on or about August 4, 2015. Plaintiffs' claims were not adjusted by the New York City Comptroller's Office within the period of time provided by statute.
- 9. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) in that defendant THE CITY OF NEW YORK resides in the Southern District of New York.
- 10. An award of costs and attorneys' fees is authorized pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1988.

PARTIES

- 11. Plaintiff D.P. is an infant and was four years old at the time of the events giving rise to this action; Plaintiff I.P. is an infant and was three years old at the time of the events giving rise to this action (collectively referred to as the "Minor Children").
- 12. Plaintiff Christian Pinckney is an African-American man, and at all times relevant to this action was a resident of New York County, New York.

- 13. Mr. Pinckney is the parent and natural guardian of the Minor Children and brings claims both on his own behalf and on behalf of the Minor Children.
- 14. Plaintiff Sharon Washington is an African-American woman, and at all times relevant to this action was a resident of New York County, New York.
- 15. Defendant THE CITY OF NEW YORK ("CITY") is a municipal entity created and authorized under the laws of the State of New York. It is authorized by law to maintain a police department, which acts as its agent in the area of law enforcement and for which it is ultimately responsible. Defendant CITY assumes the risks incidental to the maintenance of a police force and the employment of police officers.
- 16. Defendant NYPD Officer KAPPA FARID was at all times relevant herein an officer, employee, and agent of the NYPD. At all times relevant to this action, defendant FARID was acting under color of state law as an agent, servant, employee, and officer of the NYPD. He were acting for and on behalf of the NYPD at all times relevant herein, with the power and authority vested in him as an officer, agent, and employee of the NYPD.
- 17. Defendant FARID is being sued in his individual capacity.
- 18. Defendants' acts herein complained of were carried out intentionally, recklessly, and with malice and gross disregard for plaintiffs' rights.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

19. The incident alleged herein occurred at approximately 3:00 pm on May 6, 2015, at 125th Street between Park Avenue and Lexington in New York County and continued thereafter as set forth below.

- 20. At the time and place set forth in paragraph 20, plaintiffs were lawfully present in a motor vehicle which was being lawfully operated by Mr. PINCKNEY. Ms. Washington was seated in the passenger seat, and the two Minor Children were seated in the back seat.
- 21. At the time and place set forth in paragraph 20, Ms. Washington was pregnant.
- 22. Defendant FARID indicated to Mr. Pinckney to pull over.
- 23. Mr. PINCKNEY complied with this directive.
- 24. Defendant FARID, along with other police officers, approached the vehicle.
- 25. Mr. PINCKNEY calmly informed defendant FARID that he was violating Plaintiffs' rights.
- 26. As Mr. PINCKNEY spoke, defendant FARID put his hand through the open window of the vehicle and unloaded his pepper spray inside, striking Mr. PINCKNEY and Ms. WASHINGTON.
- 27. The two Minor Children were also struck by the pepper spray, causing them to cry in fear and pain.
- 28. Defendant FARID then placed Mr. PINCKNEY under arrest.
- 29. Ms. Washington took the two Minor Children to the hospital, where all sought treatment for damage to the eyes, skin, and throat.
- 30. As a result of this incident, plaintiffs suffered physical, psychological, economic, and emotional injuries, loss of liberty, mental anguish, suffering, and humiliation.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION DEPRIVATION OF RIGHTS UNDER THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION THROUGH 42 U.S.C. § 1983

31. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations set forth in all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

- 32. Defendants, under color of state law, subjected plaintiffs to the foregoing acts and omissions, thereby depriving plaintiff of their rights, privileges and immunities secured by the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, including, without limitation, deprivation of the following constitutional rights:
 - a. Freedom to engage in protected speech, expression and association;
 - b. Freedom from unreasonable seizures of their person;
 - c. Freedom from the use of excessive force by law enforcement officers;
 - d. The enjoyment of equal protection, privileges and immunities under the laws;
 - e. Freedom from deprivation of liberty without due process of law.
- 33. As a result of defendants' deprivation of plaintiffs' constitutional rights, plaintiffs were deprived of their liberty, suffered bodily injury, pain and suffering, psychological and emotional injury, mental anguish, lost wages, humiliation and embarrassment, costs and expenses, and were otherwise damaged and injured.

SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION MONELL CLAIM AGAINST DEFENDANT CITY - 42 U.S.C. § 1983

- 34. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations set forth in all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 35. All of the acts and omissions by the individual police officer defendants described above were carried out pursuant to overlapping policies and practices of the CITY which were in existence at the time of the conduct alleged herein and were engaged in with the full knowledge, consent, and cooperation and under the supervisory authority of the defendant CITY and its agency, the NYPD.

- 36. Defendant CITY and the NYPD, by their policy-making agents, servants and employees, authorized, sanctioned and/or ratified the individual police defendants' wrongful acts; and/or failed to prevent or stop those acts; and/or allowed or encouraged those acts to continue.
- 37. The acts complained of were carried out by the aforementioned individual defendants in their capacities as police officers and officials pursuant to customs, policies, usages, practices, procedures and rules of the CITY and the NYPD, all under the supervision of ranking officers of the NYPD.
- 38. The aforementioned customs, practices, procedures and rules of the CITY and the NYPD include, but are not limited to, the following unconstitutional practices:
 - a. Racial profiling;
 - b. Failing to supervise, train, instruct and discipline police officers and encouraging their misconduct;
 - c. The use of excessive and unprovoked force against persons who do not present a threat;
 - d. Failing to intervene to prevent the above-mentioned practices when they reasonably could have been prevented by a supervisor or other agent or employee of the NYPD.
- 39. The existence of the aforesaid unconstitutional customs and practices is evidenced, *inter alia*, by the following:
 - a. In *Floyd v. City of New York*, 08 Civ. 1034 (SAS) (S.D.N.Y, Aug. 12, 2013) the Honorable Shira Scheindlin found, after a two-month bench trial, that the NYPD engages in a widespread and systemic practice of racial profiling, and that senior NYPD officials are deliberately indifferent to these patterns and practices.
 - b. In a class action lawsuit filed on August 31, 2015, twelve Latino and African-American NYPD officers assert that they have been harassed, given poor evaluations, denied benefits, transferred to undesirable posts and threatened with termination because they are "unwilling to perform racially discriminatory and unwarranted enforcement actions against the minority community." *Raymond v. City of New York*, 15 CV 6885 (LTS) (S.D.N.Y. Aug. 31, 2015).
 - c. In a special report published by Reuters on December 23, 2014, a number of African-American NYPD officers asserted that they had been racially profiled when off duty, including "being pulled over for no reason, having their heads slammed against their

- cars, getting guns brandished in their faces, being thrown into prison vans and experiencing stop and frisks while shopping."
- d. In 2012, three NYPD detectives testified that their superiors regularly used racial slurs in the workplace.²
- e. In 2009, NYPD Officer Adrian Schoolcraft was involuntarily committed to a psychiatric ward by his precinct commander after exposed a precinct's policies and practices of illegal quotas for the issuance of summonses and arrests, falsifying evidence and suborning perjury.³
- f. In response to the Honorable Judge Weinstein's ruling of November 25, 2009 in *Colon v. City of New York*, 09-CV-00008 (E.D.N.Y.), in which he noted a "widespread... custom or policy by the city approving illegal conduct" such as lying under oath and false swearing, then-Commissioner Kelly acknowledged, "When it happens, it's not for personal gain. It's more for convenience."⁴
- g. *Walton v. Safir*, 99-CV-4430 (AKH), 122 F.Supp.2d 466 (S.D.N.Y. 2000) (factual findings after trial that a 12-year veteran of NYPD was terminated in retaliation for criticizing the racially-motivated policies of the NYPD's Street Crime Unit and for alleging that such policies led to the NYPD shooting death of Amadou Diallo);
- h. White-Ruiz v. City of New York, 93-CV-7233 (DLC) (MHD), 983 F.Supp. 365, 380 (S.D.N.Y. 1997) (holding that the NYPD had an "unwritten policy or practice of encouraging or at least tolerating a pattern of harassment directed at officers who exposed instances of police corruption");
- Ariza v. City of New York, 93-CV-5287 (CPS), 1996 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 20250 at*14 (E.D.N.Y.) (police officer alleges retaliatory duty assignments and harassment in response to his allegations about a racially-discriminatory workplace; on motion for summary judgment, the Court held that the police officer had established proof of both a widespread usage of a policy to retaliate against police officers who expose police misconduct and a failure to train in the police department);
- j. Zabala v. City of New York, Index No. 3771/2010 (Sup. Ct., Kings Co.) (police officers severely beat and TASER a compliant, prone, bloodied and semi-conscious suspect after he had surrendered);

7

¹ Michelle Conlin, *Off duty, black cops in New York feel threat from fellow police*, Reuters, Dec. 23, 2014 *available at* http://mobile.reuters.com/article/idUSKBN0K11EV20141223.

² John Marzulli, *NYPD Race Case Shocker*, Daily News, April 16, 2012 *available at* http://nydailynews.com/new-york/elite-nypd-anti-gun-unit-accused-treating-black-suspects-animals-article-1.1062188.

³ Graham Rayman, *The NYPD Tapes Confirmed*, Village Voice, March 7, 2012, *available at* http://www.villagevoice.com/news/the-nypd-tapes-confirmed-6434290.

⁴ Oren Yaniv and John Marzulli, *Kelly Shrugs Off Judge Who Slammed Cops*, New York Daily News, December 2, 2009, *available at* http://www.nydailynews.com/news/ny_crime/2009/12/02/2009-12-02_kelly_shrugs_off_judge_who_rips_lying_cops.html.

- k. *Ashe v. City of New York*, 09-CV-9696 (GBD) (THK) (S.D.N.Y. 2010) (police officers beat and use pepper spray upon arrestees even though they were both already handcuffed and compliant);
- 1. *Mckie v. City of New York*, 12-CV-2070 (JG) (VVP) (E.D.N.Y. 2010) (Police harassed, falsely arrested, maced, and injured a young man, and charged him with blocking traffic while he stood waiting for a train at Broadway Junction);
- m. *Moise v. City of New York*, 09-CV-9855 (DC) (JLC) (S.D.N.Y. 2010) (police officers beat and use pepper-spray upon a compliant arrestee while he was already in handcuffs);
- n. Long v. City of New York, 09-CV-6099 (AKH) (S.D.N.Y. 2009); People v. Pogan, 06416-2008 (Sup. Ct., N.Y. Co.) (officer was prosecuted for recklessly using physical force);
- o. *Powers v. City of New York*, 04-CV-2246 (NGG), 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 27704 (E.D.N.Y. 2008) (police officer alleges unlawful retaliation by other police officers after testifying about corruption within the NYPD);
- p. *McMillan v. City of New York*, 04-CV-3990 (FB) (RML) (E.D.N.Y. 2006) (officers fabricated evidence and used excessive force against an African-American man in Kings County and initiated drug charges against him, despite an absence of any quantum of suspicion);
- q. *Richardson v. City of New York*, 02-CV-3651 (JG) (CLP) (E.D.N.Y. 2006) (officers fabricated evidence, including knowingly false sworn complaints, and used excessive force against an African-American man in Kings County and initiated drug chargesagainst him, despite an absence of any quantum of suspicion);
- r. Barry v. New York City Police Department, 01-CV-10627 *2 (CBM), 2004 U.S. LEXIS 5951 (S.D.N.Y. 2005) (triable issue of fact where NYPD sergeant alleged retaliatory demotion and disciplinary charges in response to sergeant's allegations of corruption within her unit and alleged that the NYPD had an "unwritten but pervasive custom of punishing officers who speak out about police misconduct and encouraging, if not facilitating, silence among officers");
- s. *Dotson v. City of New York*, 03-CV-2136 (RMB) (S.D.N.Y. 2003) (officers arrest and use excessive force against a candidate for City Council for trespassing in his own residential building);
- t. *Sorlucco v. New York City Police Department*, 89-CV-7225 (CCH), 888 F.2d 4 (2d Cir. 1989) (former officer entitled to trial on issue of whether she was re-assigned and then terminated after reporting that a fellow officer had raped her);
- u. *Bryant v. City of New York*, 22011/2007 (Sup. Ct., Kings Co.) (jury declares that NYPD officers acted pursuant to a City policy regarding the number of arrests officers were expected to make that violated plaintiff's constitutional rights and contributed to her arrest);⁵

8

For a description of this case and ultimate settlement, see Oren Yaniv, Court rules that cops do use quotas, woman injured in 2006 arrest settles for \$75,000, N.Y. Daily News, Feb. 19, 2011, available at

- v. *Carmody v. City of New York*, 05-CV-8084 (HB), 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 83207 (S.D.N.Y.) (police officer alleges that he was terminated for cooperating with another officer's claims of a hostile work environment);
- w. Powers v. City of New York, 04-CV-2246 (NGG), 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 27704 (E.D.N.Y.) (police officer alleges unlawful retaliation by other police officers after testifying about corruption within the NYPD);
- x. *Nonnemann v. City of New York*, 02-CV-10131 (JSR) (AJP), 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 8966 (S.D.N.Y.) (former NYPD lieutenant alleging retaliatory demotion and early retirement after reporting a fellow officer to IAB and CCRB for the officer's suspicionless, racially-motivated stop-and-frisk of a group of Hispanic youth); and
- y. Barry v. New York City Police Department, 01-CV-10627 *2 (CBM), 2004 U.S. LEXIS 5951 (S.D.N.Y.) (triable issue of fact where NYPD sergeant alleged retaliatory demotion and disciplinary charges in response to sergeant's allegations of corruption within her unit and alleged that the NYPD had an "unwritten but pervasive custom of punishing officers who speak out about police misconduct and encouraging, if not facilitating, silence among officers").
- z. Former New York County District Attorney Robert Morgenthau has been quoted as acknowledging that, in the NYPD, there is a "code of silence," or a "code of protection" that exists among officers and that is followed carefully;
- aa. In 1985, former NYPD Commissioner Benjamin Ward, testifying before a State Senate Committee, acknowledged the existence of the "code of silence" in the NYPD;
- bb. Former NYPD Commissioner Robert Daly wrote in 1991 that the "blue wall of solidarity with its macho mores and prejudices, its cover-ups and silence, is reinforced every day in every way."
- cc. In 1990, the Office of the Special Prosecutor, which investigated charges of police corruption, was abolished.
- dd. The Mollen Commission report states:

In the face of this problem [of corruption], the [NYPD] allowed its systems for fighting corruption virtually to collapse. It has become more concerned about the bad publicity that corruption disclosures generate that the devastating consequences of corruption itself. As a result, its corruption control minimized, ignored and at times concealed corruption rather than root it out. Such an institutional reluctance to uncover corruption is not surprising. No institution wants its reputations tainted - especially a Department that needs the public's confidence and partnership to be effective. A weak and poorly resources anti-corruption apparatus minimizes the likelihood of such taint, embarrassment and potential harm to careers. Thus there is a strong institutional incentive to allow corruption efforts to fray and lose priority - which is exactly what the Commission uncovered. This reluctance manifested itself in every component of

- the Department's corruption controls from command accountability and supervision, to investigations, police culture, training and recruitment. For at least the past decade, the system designed to protect the Department from corruption minimized the likelihood of uncovering it.⁶
- ee. Upon information and belief, Defendant CITY did not take meaningful steps to eliminate the customs and practices exposed by the Mollen Commission Report.
- ff. Barry v. New York City Police Dep't, 2004 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 5951, 40-41 (S.D.N.Y. April 7, 2004) ("[P]laintiff's witnesses speak from firsthand experience about the blue wall of silence.... Plaintiff complains of acts that are of the precise nature as the customs and practices described in the [Mollen Commission] Report.");
- gg. *United States v. Rosario*, 237 F. Supp. 2d 242, 248 (E.D.N.Y. 2002) ("[Assistant U.S. Attorney] Palmer testified that while supervising the federal investigation into the Louima assault, she routinely confronted a 'blue wall of silence' erected by police officers and PBA officials intent on obstructing efforts to uncover the full truth about what had happened at the 70th precinct on August 9, 1997.")
- 40. The existence of the above-described unlawful *de facto* policies and/or well-settled and widespread customs and practices is known, encouraged and/or condoned by supervisory and policy-making officer and officials of the NYPD and the CITY.
- 41. The actions of the individual police defendants resulted from and were taken pursuant to the above-mentioned *de facto* policies and/or well-settled and widespread customs and practices of the CITY, which are implemented by members of the NYPD, of engaging in systematic and ubiquitous perjury, both oral and written, to cover-up federal law violations committed against civilians by either themselves of their fellow officers, supervisors and/or subordinates. They do so with the knowledge and approval of their supervisors and commanders who all: (i) tacitly accept and encourage a code of silence wherein police officers refuse to report other officers' misconduct or tell false and/or incomplete stories, *inter alia*, in sworn testimony, official reports, in statements to the CCRB and the Internal Affairs Bureau ("IAB"), and in public statements designed to cover for and/or falsely exonerate accused police officers; and (ii) encourage and, in the absence of video evidence

Mollen Commission Report, pp. 2-3, *available at* http://www.parc.info/client_files/Special%20Reports/ 4%20- %20 Mollen%20 Commission%20-%20NYPD.pdf.

blatantly exposing the officers' perjury, fail to discipline officers for "testilying" and/or fabricating false evidence to initiate and continue the malicious prosecution of civilians in order to cover-up civil rights violations perpetrated by themselves of fellow offices, supervisors and/or subordinates against those civilians.

- 42. All of the foregoing acts by defendants deprived the plaintiff of federally protected rights, including, but limited to, the constitutional rights enumerated in paragraph 37, above.
- 43. Defendant CITY knew or should have known that the acts alleged herein would deprive the plaintiff of his rights, in violation of the First, Fourth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution.
- 44. Defendant CITY is directly liable and responsible for the acts of the individual police defendants because it repeatedly and knowingly failed to properly supervise, train, instruct, and discipline them and because it repeatedly and knowingly failed to enforce the rules and regulation of the CITY and NYPD, and to require compliance with the Constitution and laws of the United States.
- 45. Despite knowledge of such unlawful *de facto* policies, practices and/or customs, these supervisory and policy-making officers and officials of the NYPD and the CITY, have not taken steps to terminate these policies, practices and/or customs, do not discipline individuals who engage in such polices, practices and/or customs, or otherwise properly train police officers with regard to the constitutional and statutory limits on the exercise of their authority, and instead sanction and ratify these policies, practices and/or customs through their active encouragement of, deliberate indifference to and/or reckless disregard of the effect of said policies, practices and/or customs upon the constitutional rights of persons in the City of New York.

- 46. The aforementioned CITY policies, practices and/or customs of failing to supervise, train, instruct and discipline police officers and encouraging their misconduct are evidenced by the police misconduct detailed herein. Specifically, pursuant to the aforementioned CITY policies, practices and/or customs, the individual defendants felt empowered to exercise unreasonable and wholly unprovoked force against plaintiffs. Pursuant to the aforementioned CITY policies, practices and/or customs, defendants failed to intervene in or report other defendants' violation of plaintiffs' rights.
- 47. Plaintiffs' injuries were a direct and proximate result of the defendant CITY and the NYPD's wrongful *de facto* policies and/or well-settled and widespread customs and practices and of the knowing and repeated failure of the defendant CITY and the NYPD to properly supervise, train and discipline their police officers.

THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION ASSAULT AND BATTERY UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

- 48. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations set forth in all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 49. By the actions described above, defendants did inflict assault and battery upon plaintiffs.

 The acts and conduct of defendants were the direct and proximate cause of injury and damage to plaintiffs and violated their statutory and common law rights as guaranteed by the laws and Constitution of the State of New York.
- 50. The conduct of the officer defendants alleged herein occurred while they were on duty and in uniform, and/or in and during the course and scope of their duties and functions as NYPD officers, and/or while they were acting as agents and employees of defendant CITY, clothed with and/or invoking state power and/or authority, and, as a result, defendant CITY is liable to plaintiffs pursuant to the state common law doctrine of *respondeat superior*.

51. As a result of the foregoing, plaintiffs suffered injuries and damages as set forth above.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION FALSE ARREST UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

- 52. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations set forth in all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 53. By the actions described above, defendants caused Mr. PINCKNEY to be falsely arrested or falsely arrested Mr. PINCKNEY, without reasonable or probable cause, illegally and without a warrant, and without any right or authority to do so. The acts and conduct of the defendants were the direct and proximate cause of injury and damage to Mr. PINCKNEY and violated his statutory and common law rights as guaranteed by the laws and Constitution of the State of New York.
- 54. The conduct of the officer defendants alleged herein occurred while they were on duty and in uniform, and/or in and during the course and scope of their duties and functions as NYPD officers, and/or while they were acting as agents and employees of defendant CITY, clothed with and/or invoking state power and/or authority, and, as a result, defendant CITY is liable to plaintiffs pursuant to the state common law doctrine of *respondeat superior*.
- 55. As a result of the foregoing, Mr. PINCKNEY was deprived of his liberty, suffered specific and serious bodily injury, pain and suffering, psychological and emotional injury, costs and expenses, and was otherwise damaged and injured.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION INTENTIONAL AND NEGLIGENT INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

56. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations set forth in all preceding paragraphs as if_fully set forth herein.

- 57. By the actions described above, the officer defendants engaged in extreme and outrageous_conduct, causing plaintiffs to fear for their own and each other's safety and to suffer ongoing anxiety in the presence or potential presence of the police, intentionally and/or negligently causing severe emotional distress.
- 58. Defendants owed plaintiffs a duty of care to exercise reasonable caution and proportionality in the use of force.
- 59. The acts and conduct of the officer defendants were the direct and proximate cause of injury and damage to plaintiffs and violated their statutory and common law rights as guaranteed by the laws and Constitution of the State of New York.
- 60. The conduct of the officer defendants alleged herein occurred while they were on duty and in uniform, and/or in and during the course and scope of their duties and functions as NYPD officers, and/or while they were acting as agents and employees of defendant CITY, clothed with and/or invoking state power and/or authority, and, as a result, defendant CITY is liable to plaintiffs pursuant to the state common law doctrine of *respondeat superior*.
- 61. As a result of the foregoing, plaintiffs suffered injuries and damages as set forth above.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION NEGLIGENCE UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

- 62. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations set forth in all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 63. Defendants owed plaintiffs a duty of care to exercise reasonable caution and proportionality in the use of force.
- 64. The defendants, jointly and severally, negligently caused injuries, emotional distress and damage to plaintiffs. The acts and conduct of the individual defendants were the direct and

- proximate cause of injury and damage to plaintiffs, and violated their statutory and common law rights as guaranteed by the laws and Constitution of the State of New York.
- 65. The conduct of the officer defendants alleged herein occurred while they were on duty and in uniform, and/or in and during the course and scope of their duties and functions as NYPD officers, and/or while they were acting as agents and employees of defendant CITY, clothed with and/or invoking state power and/or authority, and, as a result, defendant CITY is liable to plaintiffs pursuant to the state common law doctrine of *respondeat superior*.
- 66. As a result of the foregoing, plaintiffs suffered injuries and damages as set forth above.

SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION NEGLIGENT HIRING, SCREENING, RETENTION, SUPERVISION, AND TRAINING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

- 67. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the allegations set forth in all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 68. Defendant CITY negligently hired, screened, retained, supervised, and trained defendants.

 The acts and conduct of the defendants were the direct and proximate cause of injury and damage to plaintiffs and violated their statutory and common law rights as guaranteed by the laws and Constitution of the State of New York.
- 69. As a result of the foregoing, plaintiffs suffered injuries and damages as set forth above.

JURY DEMAND

70. Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury in this action on each and every one of their damage claims.

WHEREFORE, plaintiffs demands judgment against the defendants individually and jointly and pray for relief as follows:

- a. That they be compensated for violations of their constitutional rights, pain, suffering, mental anguish, and humiliation; and
- b. That they be awarded punitive damages against the individual defendants; and

- c. That they be compensated for attorneys' fees and the costs and disbursements of this action; and
- d. For such other further and different relief as to the Court may seem just and proper.

Dated: New York, New York November 4, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for the Plaintiffs
42 Broadway, Suite 12-122
New York, New York 10004

t: (212) 227-2303 f: (212) 320-0230